

§ 41.238 Investigation of applicant.

Appropriate TTB officers may inquire or investigate to verify the information in connection with an application for a permit. The investigation will ascertain whether the applicant is eligible for a permit. A permit may be denied if the applicant (including, in the case of a corporation, any officer, director, or principal stockholder and, in the case of a partnership, a partner)—

(a) Is, by reason of his business experience, financial standing, or trade connections or by reason of previous or current legal proceedings involving a felony violation of any other provision of Federal criminal law relating to tobacco products, processed tobacco, cigarette paper, or cigarette tubes, not likely to maintain operations in compliance with this chapter;

(b) Has been convicted of a felony violation of any provision of Federal or State criminal law relating to tobacco products, processed tobacco, cigarette paper, or cigarette tubes; or

(c) Has failed to disclose any material information required or made any material false statement in the application therefor.

§ 41.239 Notice of contemplated disapproval.

If the appropriate TTB officer has reason to believe that the applicant is not entitled to a permit, the appropriate TTB officer will promptly give to the applicant notice of the contemplated disapproval of the application and opportunity for hearing thereon in accordance with part 71 of this chapter. If, after such notice and opportunity for hearing, the appropriate TTB officer finds that the applicant is not entitled to a permit, an order will be prepared stating the findings on which the application is denied.

§ 41.240 Issuance of permit.

If the application for the permit required under this subpart is approved, the appropriate TTB officer will issue a permit on TTB F 5200.24 to the applicant as an importer of processed tobacco.

§ 41.241 Duration of permit.

A permit issued under § 41.240 of this part will be valid for a period of three years from the effective date shown on the permit.

§ 41.242 Renewal of permit.

(a) *General.* Importers of processed tobacco wishing to continue operations beyond the expiration of their current permit must renew their permit by making application within 30 days of the expiration date on the permit, in accordance with instructions for the permit form. The expiring permit will continue in effect until final action is taken by TTB on the application for renewal, provided a timely application for renewal is filed.

(b) *Minimum activity requirement.* A permit to import processed tobacco will only be renewed for those persons who have engaged in the importing of processed tobacco under the current permit in the one year period prior to the application to renew.

§ 41.243 Retention of permit and supporting documents.

The importer of processed tobacco must retain the permit, together with the copy of the application and supporting documents returned with the permit, at the same place where the records required by this subpart are kept. The permit and supporting documents must be made available for inspection by any appropriate TTB officer upon request.

CHANGES AFTER ORIGINAL
QUALIFICATION

§ 41.251 Change in name.

(a) *Change in individual name.* When there is a change in the name of an individual operating under a permit as an importer of processed tobacco, the importer must, within 30 days of such change, make application on TTB F 5230.5 for an amended permit.

(b) *Change in trade name.* When there is a change in a trade name used by an importer of processed tobacco in connection with operations authorized by the permit, the importer must, within 30 days of such change, make application on TTB F 5230.5 for an amended